

doggy daycare and spa

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August 2007 Newsletter

Want to win a 20 Visit Pass to Daycare?

During the month of August, we will be selling \$5 Raffle Tickets for a chance to win a 20 visit pass to Doggy Daycare! All of the money raised will be given directly to the Capital Area Humane Society at the 2007 Walk/Run for the Animals on September 22, 2007.

If you are interested in joining the Doggy Daycare and Spa pack at the walk, please let us know.

Cool Treats!

If you haven't already been, check out Cones and Bones with your dog(s) someday on your way home from Daycare! Cones and Bones serves ice cream treats for both dogs and their humans. It is located just to the north of Doggy Daycare and Spa on Elmwood (Snow Rd turns into Elmwood past St. Joe Hwy). With the weather so warm, a little ice cream would hit Spot's spot!

Labor Day Weekend Boarding Reservations

If you are planning to go away over the Labor Day holiday and will need to board your dog, please reserve your dog's space asap as we do plan to fill up for this last summer weekend!

Did you know that?

- It is a myth that dogs are color blind. They can actually see in color, just not as vividly as humans (kind of like our vision at dusk).
- Dogs do see better in lower light than humans.
- If never spayed or neutered, 2 dogs (and their offspring) could produce over 66,000 dogs in 6 years.
- Dogs' only have sweat glands between their paw pads.
- President Lyndon Johnson had 2 beagles, "Him" and "Her".
- The average dog's mouth exerts 150-200 lbs of pressure per square inch, with some dogs exerting up to 450 lbs per square inch! Ouch!
- The United States has the highest dog population in the entire world. (France has the 2nd highest).
- The Taco Bell Chihuahua's name is "Gidget."
- Basset Hounds cannot swim.
- Three dogs survived the sinking of the Titanic... a Newfoundland, a Pomeranian and a Pekingese.
- Obesity is the #1 health problem in dogs.
- An estimated 1,000,000 dogs in the US have been named the primary beneficiary in their human's will.
- Dog's nose prints are as unique as a human's finger print and can be used to accurately identify them.
- 70% of people sign their pets' names on greeting and holiday cards.

If an emergency happened...are you prepared?

Planning a disaster action plan for your pets

Courtesy of: Elyse Kopietz, Community Relations Coordinator at the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross

What would you do if there was a disaster in your neighborhood? Would you be able to evacuate your entire family, including your pets? When Hurricane Katrina struck the southern states several years ago, many of us sympathized with those who refused to leave their flooded homes because their animals could not go with them. Many of us assume we will never find ourselves in a situation where we would have to make the choice between our own safety and that of our pets.

Michigan residents are fortunate enough to never have to face the effects of a hurricane. However, winter storms, heat waves, blackouts, tornadoes, floods and fires are all very real disasters that can happen at anytime. It is important to have a plan of action for you and your furry loved ones in the event of an emergency.

The first step to creating a disaster plan is to consider the types of disasters you may encounter. Ask yourself “what if?” What if there was a winter storm that took out your power? What if there was a toxic spill and your neighborhood was being evacuated? What if you had a house fire?

Next, families need to create a disaster plan for emergency situations and discuss these plans. If an emergency happened in your home, who will be responsible for gathering the animals? How will you get them out of the house safely and quickly? How will you alert other family members who may be arriving later that pets have been safely evacuated? Where will you meet? If you can't meet near your home, where will you meet? If you have to leave your home overnight, where will you go? What places allow pets?

After you have considered the situations you may encounter, gather things you would need to take with you. Assemble a “disaster kit” for your pets in a sturdy, easily transportable container. Items to include:

- A listing of overnight accommodations with pet friendly policies
- Carriers
- Medical records and contact information, including written information on feeding schedules, and medical conditions
- Medications
- Food and bottled water, a can opener if needed
- Leashes, harnesses, collars,
- Beds, toys or other comfort items
- Current photos of your pet in case they are lost

Keep your disaster kit in a place where you can easily retrieve it. Make sure all family members know where to find this kit.

It is important to practice your disaster plan with the entire family, including your pets. Practicing your plan will help to ensure all family members are comfortable with the action plan and know what to do. Keep in mind that animals will react differently under stress. Do not rely on your pet to behave the same as they always do, and be prepared for whatever may arise.

Finally, share your disaster plan with friends and neighbors. Encourage them to consider emergency situations they may encounter and to develop their own family plans to ensure the safety of their pets.

For more information on disaster preparedness, contact your local American Red Cross:

Mid-Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross
517-484-7461 x.137 www.midmichiganredcross.org